(c) The information on comparative position in countries like Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore and Korea etc. in this regard is not available.

ADB aided Rural Projects

2351. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whethe Government have entered into a bid for ADB aided rural projects for which tenders were flouted by DOT;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether selection has been made for the purpose;

(d) if so, the details of the terms and conditions of the contracts; and

(e) by when the projects are likely to be set up, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir.

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Import of engines for Pilotless Target Aircraft

2352. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that HAL spent Rs. 9.22 crores on the development of an engine for pilotless target aircraft which was unsuccessful, as a result of which 14 engines were imported at a cost of Rs. 6.75 crores; and

(b) if so, who is accountable for this loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N. V. N. SOMU): (a) The Pilotless Target Aircraft Engine (PTAE-7 engine), designed and developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) has been successfully flown on 18 May 1995. This is the first ever Aero-Gas Turbine Engine developed in the country. The project cost went up to Rs. 9.82 crores in 1989, due to technical problems. In the meanwhile, to ensure uninterrupted flight testing programme of PTA, import of 14 engines was authorised. However, future requirements for the PTA programme will be with the HAL developed engine, after certification. The magnitude of the development, expenditure of this engine, is much less than the development costs of such engines elsewhere in the world.

(b) In view of the above, question does not arise.

Selection of NCC cadets for annual camps

2353. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure adopted as criteria for selecting NCC cadets for annual camps including percentage of total candidates/cadets selected for such camps throughout the country;

(b) the details of facilities made available for NCC, cadets in such camp durations; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on annual camps during the last two years, year-wise and the cadets undergone/attended these camps in the country and the number of casualties of cadets, if any, occurred during the above periods?